

improper positioning or poor technique. Repeated imaging examinations cost the U.S. health care system millions of dollars annually in needless medical bills.

Millions of Americans every year depend upon medical imaging exams to diagnose disease and detect injury, and thousands more rely on radiation therapy to treat and cure their cancers. But remember, any radiologic procedure is only as effective as the person performing it. No matter how expensive or sophisticated the equipment, an imaging exam will not reveal a broken bone or a diseased organ if the person who is using that equipment does not know the basics of radiographic positioning, exposure and technique.

By regulating the personnel responsible for performing those procedures, the CARE bill will mean improved care for patients—higher quality images, improved accuracy, and less exposure to radiation.

I urge all my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support this legislation and enact it in a timely manner so American patients will receive the best care possible, provided by the best caregivers possible.

URGING ADDITION OF HEZBOLLAH TO EUROPEAN UNION'S TERRORIST ORGANIZATION LIST

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. SAXTON and Mr. ENGEL for joining with me in introducing this critically important resolution, urging the EU to add Hezbollah to its terrorist list. For 23 years, Hezbollah has led a global campaign of terror aided by Syria and Iran that has targeted American, Israeli, European, South American, Asian and Arab citizens alike. Dubbed the “A-team of terror” by former Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, the global security threat posed by Hezbollah nears—if not surpasses—that of Al Qaeda.

Since its inception in 1982, Hezbollah has carried out the bombings of the American Embassy in Lebanon, the Israeli Embassy in Argentina and the U.S. and French Marine bases in Beirut, among others. Hezbollah still has a formidable presence in Lebanon, as demonstrated by last week's rally organized by Hezbollah in Beirut, where half a million people gathered to express their support for Syria, while chanting “death to America; death to Israel” and waving pictures of Syrian President Bashar Assad. This position openly defies international demands, as well as that of an American and French-initiated U.N. Security Council Resolution, which calls for a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon and the disarmament of Hezbollah.

In past years, Hezbollah has increasingly supported groups designated by the EU as terrorist organizations, including the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Moreover, EU Member States such as France and Germany have taken recent legal action against Hezbollah, including the German deportation of a Hezbollah agent and the

French banning of Hezbollah television, Al Manar. The EU has also included several officials affiliated with Hezbollah on its terrorist list, thereby precluding the transfer of funds to these individuals from EU Member States. Finally, the European Parliament voted overwhelmingly last Thursday for a resolution urging the EU Council to “take all necessary steps to curtail Hezbollah” due to “clear evidence of terrorist activity.”

It defies logic that the EU would take such action and, at the same time, omit Hezbollah from its terrorist list.

In fact, an EU representative recently affirmed that Palestinian officials are increasingly concerned about the enhanced presence of Hezbollah in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Palestinians fear that Hezbollah will undermine a negotiated ceasefire and target Abu Mazen, who has faced severe criticism from Hezbollah, in addition to assassination threats. A Palestinian official recently cited an intercepted email and bank transaction indicating that Hezbollah has increased its payments to Palestinian terrorists from \$20,000 to \$100,000 per attack. If the EU was to add Hezbollah to its terrorist list, such transactions may be impeded by an EU financial block.

In past years, EU Member states have sought to distinguish between the political and military wings of Hezbollah. However, Hezbollah officials themselves do not believe this distinction can be made—proving the futility of such claims. This was reiterated by Mohammad Raad, one of Hezbollah's representatives in the Lebanese Parliament, who stated that “Hezbollah is a military resistance party, and it is our task to fight the occupation of our land . . . There is no separation between politics and resistance.”

Hezbollah does not discriminate in its targeting of innocent civilians, and the EU should not discriminate in its classification of terror. As such, the European Union must join the ranks of America, Canada, Israel and Australia in taking firm action against Hezbollah and adding them to its terrorist list. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

IN MEMORY OF LOWELL C. “BUTCH” SPIRES, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Monday, March 14, 2005, a great Statesman, friend and father passed away quietly. Known as “Butch” to those who loved him, was Lowell Colquitt Spires, Jr. of Cayce. Outside of his many accomplishments, one of the great assets he had was his family and friends. He lived his life with honor, dignity and character. Opinionated and forthright in his speech, Butch's love for his community and fellow man spoke louder than anything else. He worked for the betterment of his community and the impact it would accomplish for future generations. Butch set a mark in which his friends and family will always be honored for and grateful. Though his life was too short for those of us whom are left, his strength and love will always be a constant in our lives. The list of accomplishments in no way reveal the impact he has had on many people. He used

to say, “The utmost a man can do is to give without hesitation. The character of our life is defined by how we love and live, not by what we personally obtain.”

Born in Columbia on May 12, 1941, Butch was a son of the late Lowell C. and Margaret Estelle Love Spires, Sr. A lifelong resident, he was a member of Kitti Wake Baptist Church. Married to Gail Julian Spires since August 26, 1960, Butch was employed as president with WestBank Consultants, LLC, and was Special Projects Coordinator for the Town of Lexington. He was tireless in his accomplishments over the years. He served on the Lexington County Council from 1977–1995, as chairman in 1979, 1991 and 1993. He was one of Lexington County's representatives to CMCOG 1977–1983, 1993–present. Butch was vice-chairman of Central Midlands Council of Governments in 1978–79 and 1993–94, and chairman in 1979–80 and 1994–95. He served ten terms on the CMCOG Executive Committee, which included the Transportation Planning Subcommittee. This committee facilitated formation of the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority from 1999–2002, of which he was chairman from 2002–present. On this committee, Butch spearheaded funding and construction in the Central Midlands Region of 27 years of highway improvements in seven years through SCDOT's Bonding Program.

Butch was instrumental in securing funding to ensure continued development of Riverbanks Zoo, the economic development of the Midlands and Lexington County for over thirty years, and the development of the Columbia Convention Center. He originated CMCOG Wetlands Mitigation Bank, currently under development.

A charter member of Central Carolina Economic Development Alliance, Butch was also past president of the South Carolina Association of Regional Councils, past chairman of Lexington County Recreation of Aging Commission, and past president of the S.C. Association of Counties. He was currently a board member of the River Alliance since 1994, of which he originated the concept of 3-Rivers Greenway, member of West Metro and Greater Columbia Chambers of Commerce, served on the boards of Lexington Medical Center and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School.

His honors include: Recipient of Order of Palmetto, first recipient of the CMCOG Regional Leadership Award in 2005, Transportation Association of SC Outstanding Achievement Award in 2003 for his support and advocacy of public transportation, named SC Ambassador for Economic Development by Governor Carroll Campbell in 1994, President's Cup for Distinguished Service in 1986, Woodrow Wilson Award in 1986, and recipient of the District Lay Award for SC Recreation and Parks Society in 1980.

Surviving, besides his wife are, daughter and son-in-law, Mindy Spires-Miller and Chuck Miller of Mt. Pleasant; sons and daughters-in-law, Lowell C. “Corky” and Cindy Spires, III of West Columbia, Randall “Randy” and Corrine Spires of Greenwood Village, CO; brothers, Nash Lagrand Spires of Birmingham, AL, Zane Erwin Spires of West Columbia; grandchildren, Brittany Spires Farley (Christopher I.), Meagan Noel Spires, Ian Juliano Spires, Katherine Rose Fallon Spires, Garrett Lowell Lacy, and Addy Marie Brooks Lacy.